Vol. 52, Issue 18

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**Medical Group** 

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Air Park.

Timothy Jex as he

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**Special Operations** 

Killgore, 16th

mander (left),

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

May 7, 2004



# 16th Medical Group welcomes new commander

By Airman James Dickens Public Affairs

The 16th Medical Group welcomed their new commander during a change of command ceremony here, April 29.

Surrounded by distinguished visitors, family and friends, Col. Timothy Jex assumed command from Col. Kevin Pollard.

The ceremony was presided over by Col. Raymond Killgore, 16th Special Operations Wing vice commander, and was held at the Air Park.

Colonel Jex, who's a Scarsdale, N.Y., native, arrived here from U.S. Central Command Air Forces, Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., where he was the command surgeon.

"Colonel Jex is a very intelligent man, who's familiar with the Special Operations mission," said Colonel Killgore. "He's a highly talented and skilled individual, who understands the challenges our people face here and in austere locations."

"I have a tough job ahead of me, trying to fill the shoes of someone like Colonel Pollard, but I'll give you the best I have to offer," said Colonel Jex. "I couldn't have hoped for a better group to command."

Colonel Pollard did great things for the medical group and the wing, and Colonel Jex will do the same, Colonel Killgore said.

"Colonel Pollard's leadership led the medical group to be named best medical treatment facility in the Air Force by the surgeon general and it was also instrumental in helping the wing win the Installation Excellence award," Colonel Killgore said.

"There is no one I would rather give my group to other than Colonel Jex," Colonel Pollard said.

# May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Hurlburt Field proudly joins the nation in celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May. This year's theme is "Freedom for All, A Nation We Call Our Own." To honor the achievements of Asian Pacific Americans, Congress, has designated May of each year as National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Asian Pacific Americans encompass many ethnic groups with diverse backgrounds, languages and cultures.

The Hurlburt Field Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is celebrated with governmentsponsored activities and educational events for students. In recognition of the fact that diversity represents one of our great strengths, we strive to ensure everyone has the opportunity to see and understand the cultural traditions, ancestry, native languages and unique experiences represented among the more than 30 ethnic groups from Asia and the Pacific at Hurlburt Field and its surrounding communities.

By recognizing their accomplishments and contributions, we celebrate the importance of Asian Pacific Americans in building a brighter future for the citizens of our community, nation and world.

Activities planned during this month are:

■ Asian Pacific lunch at The Reef - May 12, 11

a.m. to 1 p.m.

■APAH Dinner Gala at The Soundside club – May 21, 5:30 to 9 p.m., followed by a dance from 9 – 11 p.m.

All base personnel are invited to attend. Tickets to the gala are available for \$15 and may be purchased from Helen Cason at 884-3286 or Master Sgt. Adonis Martinez at 884-6876.



Airman 1st Class Gary Stephens

# Happy Mother's Day



Don't forget Sunday is Mother's Day

# Sports



# Hawks face 'Hard Targets'

Season ends for base roller hockey team

Page 13

# **Feature**



# 16th MSG staff highlighted

MSG support staff shares mission goals

Pages 14

# Weather

#### Weekend forecast

**Today** – partly cloudy, mostly sunny, High 85 Low 61

**Saturday** – partly cloudy, mostly sunny, High 86 Low 62

**Sunday** – partly cloudy, mostly sunny, High 74 Low 63

www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/weather/5day

# Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to me for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. I really appreciate your feedback.

To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the

COMMANDO. I'll answer the others by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you and perhaps improve their process.

Viewpoints

However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give me a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.



Col. O.G. Mannon

# Door to opportunity is always labeled 'push'

By Chief Master Sgt. Doug Hodge 65th Air Base Wing command chief

**LAJES FIELD, Azores** – Finance guru Tom Peters was right when he said, "If a window of opportunity appears, don't pull down the shade."

For those of us serving in the Air Force, the sun shines brightly through a very large window. It overlooks many different prospects for change, promotion and advancement. From education to recognition, the door to opportunity is always labeled 'push.'

I've been fortunate to see many opportunities over the course my own career. I finished my Community College of the Air Force degree. I branched out from my career field and held positions in the professional military education field, including commandant of an NCO Academy.

Those same opportunities are available to you without discrimination. How close are you to a CCAF

associate's degree? You may be closer than you think, and spring graduation is just around the corner.

No one can deny the military is the best deal for getting a bachelor's degree. With 100 percent tuition assistance and classes that flex around your schedule, the education office and the schools offering advanced degree programs are ready to serve.

Meanwhile, training opportunities abound. Have you attended the Commando Pride Airman Center course? Have you gotten Airman Leadership School out of the way? When are you headed to the NCO Academy?

Sometime after you read this, look at the jobs available to you on the EQUAL Plus list. How many will you find?

Special duty assignments as military training instructors, military training leaders, professional military education instructors, office of special investigation agents, recruiters and more await.

The Air Force needs more people to look at the big picture — to look for assignments that may not necessarily turn a wrench or march a patrol. Is that you?

Or will you just be filling the squares you believe need filling?

To round out your view through this window of opportunity, seek and engage the hundreds of volunteer openings at your base. Awards dinners, celebrations, ceremonies and other events are always looking for people with energy, ability and a smile.

There is so much more. The education counselors, career advisor supervisors, first sergeants and others are your first stop to pushing the door open.

As we continue our mission providing support to the world's premiere air and space force, remember to leave the shade up on the window of opportunity that's open to you. (AFPN)

# It takes great people to build great organizations

By Lt. Col. John Specht 23rd Fighter Squadron

**SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany** – Not all organizations are created equal. Some units have something special. Their members seem remarkably happy, the mission always gets accomplished and their names are heard whenever the very best are mentioned.

Great organizations are always composed of great people. There's no shortage of great people within the Air Force family, yet great organizations have a way of grooming, attracting and keeping quality people.

One of the best ways to make somebody great in his or her profession is by providing the absolute best training available.

The bottom line is that people will never be competent and self-confident unless they've been given the proper training. Their proficiency and confidence enhances their performance and reflects well on the organization. They look good and the unit looks good.

When highly trained people become the trademark of the unit, the unit quickly gets a reputation for being one of the best in the business. Great units are full of people who display loyalty and pride.

It's sometimes difficult to determine if loyalty and pride create great units, or if great units promote loyalty and pride. Loyalty and pride are contagious attributes,

and great organizations have little trouble attracting and developing great folks who display these qualities.

The best units also understand the importance of effective communication. Think about the myriad ways effective communication enhances a unit.

Good units establish goals and ensure their people know what these goals are and how they'll be accomplished. They ensure everyone understands the mission and goals.

They make it a point to recognize their folks to ensure people get the credit they deserve. They provide feedback and ensure people understand their strengths and weaknesses. People are aware of how to improve their performance and contributions to the unit.

Good units also provide their folks with the best information on deployments, work schedules and contingencies. This enhances long-range planning and creates stability at home and in the workplace.

If you're fortunate enough to be part of a great organization, congratulations. If not, see what you can contribute to your unit to start moving it in the right direction.

Know what it is that the unit is trying to accomplish. Understand your role, no matter how seemingly insignificant, in accomplishing the mission.

Be proud and be loyal of your organization. Be willing to make it better. **(AFPN)** 

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#### Production

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 16th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photography unless otherwise indicated. The COMMANDO staff may include or exclude articles based upon the news value determined by the staff, impact on the wing's mission, and the space allotted for editorial content by the publisher.

#### Submitting articles

The deadline for submissions to the COMMAN-DO is 4 p.m. Wednesday, the week prior to publication. Articles may be submitted on IBM format computer disk or via electronic mail. Non-electronic submissions must be typed, double-spaced and all submissions must include the name and telephone number of a person to call for questions. Address information

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#### **DUI Tracker**

April 30- May 6: 0 DUIs This year: 20

DUIs for 2003: 54

Last DUI: 16th Maintenance

Squadron

Airmen Against Drunk Driving Don't Drink and Drive. Call 884-8844 Potential saves this year: 294

16th OG ......**81** 16th MSG ....**77** 16th MXG ....**46** 16th MDG ....**81** 

As of Feb. 15, individual groups get a down day for 60 consecutive days without a DUI. Totals are current as of May 6.

Congratulations to the 16th MDG, 16th MSG, 16th OG and 16th SOW staff agencies for going more than 60 days without receiving a DUI.

**Becky** 

**McVay** 

Howard

**Taylor** 

# Volunteers honored for dedicated service

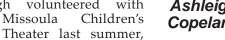
By Heather Gerlach Family Support Center

Eight individuals and two groups from Hurlburt Field were recognized with Angel Awards and Volunteer Excellence Awards for their voluntary community service during a luncheon at The Soundside, April 23.

Overall, more than 1,000 volunteers devoted countless hours of work teaching and conducting first aid and pharmacy duties, working with church activities and lending their services to the community. Together they accumulated 72,302 hours in 2003, saving Hurlburt Field \$1,242,871.

The following individuals are recipients of the Angel Award:

Ashleigh Copeland is a teenage volunteer at the base chapel, where she accumulated 600 hours of volunteer time in 2003. Ashleigh led the morning service children's church ministry, working with 5 through 12 year olds. She's also a member of the choir and protestant youth group. Ashleigh volunteered with



directing children in plays and also helped raise money for the 9/11 relief

Rae Eubert volunteered nearly 300 hours with the Family Services Loan Closet, where she's volunteered for the past 13 years. She helped serve approximately 1,800 families by providing temporary household items and helped prepare 2,000 welcome packages for squadron sponsors. Each year, she works with the ladies' auxiliary in an effort to

raise money for AIDS and cancer research.

Rae

Eubert

Airman 1st Class Nelson Gutierrez volunteered more than 800 hours last year for several organizations. He served as Airman Against Drunk Driving public affairs officer and vice president of the 25th Information Operations Squadron Booster Club. Airmen Gutierrez also volunteered with the Air Force Sergeant's Association and helped organize the Department of Defense Bone

Marrow Drive, while lending his Airman 1st Class time to several **Nelson Gutierrez** other organiza-

> Airman 1st Class Julia Hogan volunteered approximately 850 hours last year with several base organizations. She's dedicated more than 500 hours as a member of the Hurlburt Field Honor Guard. She also coached youth soccer, was involved in Cub Scout camp, Fort Walton

Beach's Special Olympics and participated in the Read Across America Campaign in 2003. Airman Hogan also supported the AFSA, the booster club and AADD.

Julia Hogan

Airman 1st

Class

Monica McCain garnered more than 800 hours last year serving as youth group leader, co-leader for a couple's class and choir member among other organizations. She also helped coordinate "40 Days of Purpose" and a youth mission trip where about a dozen people helped repair homes for the less fortunate. Ms. McCain is a member of the Women of the Chapel, and serves on the executive board of the Hulburt Officer Spouses Club.

Becky McVay accumulated more than 630 hours last year as one of 20 members

of the Spouses Steering Committee and child care representative for the Air Command and Staff College. Within

the last year, Ms. McVay contributed monthly articles to various publications, helped assemble packages for deployed troops and helped raise more than \$5,000 for local charities. She also conducted fundraising efforts and created a support network for spouses. Ms. McVay also served on the executive board of the Hulburt Officer Spouses Club and was a reservations representative in 2003.

The following are recipients of the Volunteer Excellence

Retired Col. Mark Carroll volunteered with the 16th Medical Group pharmacy. Mr. Carroll volunteered during the two busiest days of the week, often lending assistance beyond scheduled hours. He enforced Department of Defense prescription drop-off and pick-up policies. Mr. Carroll worked more than 400 hours as a choir member and minister at the base chapel. He's also donated 350 hours as a surgical

waiting room volunteer at Sacred Heart

Mark

Howard Taylor has provided countless hours for numerous

lifetime. For the past 24 years, he's set up and cleaned up for squadron summer picnics and holiday parties. He's also dressed as Santa Claus at holiday parties and managed fundraising activities. Mr. Taylor is a member of the Navarre United Methodist Church, where he volunteers teaching Sunday school and helping out with countless other church activities,

including overseeing construction jobs at the church. He's also organized several car shows to help raise money to someone in need of a kidney transplant and for two other

Hurlburt Field Family Services volunteers amassed approximately 34,000 volunteer hours and a combined 148 years of total service. In 2003, they served 1,500 service members and their families. Family services volunteers ensure the loan closet is open and staffed during weekdays. They also provide information to those preparing to relocate to and from the local area. These individuals also devote time to the local hospice, the American Cancer Society, the local agency for the blind, various schools and churches, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Red Cross and base chapel.

ed 4,100 hours in 2003. Because of their efforts, profits have risen considerably over the years. In the last 37 years, the thrift shop has donated more than \$350,000 to scholarships, military organizations and the local community.

Arecia Whitfield

Spotlight

on ...

Rank/Duty Title: GS-5/ Awards and decorations moni-

**Organization:** 16th Mission Support Squadron

Hometown: Louisville, Ky. **Hobbies:** Enjoys being a girl scout leader, shopping and reading

**Contribution to the mission:** 

Ms. Whitfield is a stellar manager of the base's decorations program. She's an astute, hardworking professional who handles the demands of a "onedeep" slot.

She single-handedly generated special orders for more than 540 award packages.

Ms. Whitfield is a highly motivated team player whose efforts are reflected by tenaciously updating and distributing more than 300 decorations from external units.

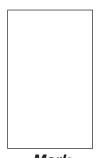
She diligently processed more than 450 completed packages while providing personal and courteous customer service to walk-ins on an on-going basis.

Ms. Whitfield is resourceful and dedicated to fulfilling a variety of collateral duties, while juggling her own responsibilities. She's truly a team player.

(Editor's Note: The Commando highlights airmen, junior NCOs, company grade officers, Department of Defense civilians and volunteers in units who do a great job, and should receive day-to-day recognition. Supervisors can call the 16th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office at 884-7464 for more information on nominating an individual for the "Spotlight on..." column.)



Ashleigh Copeland



Monica

McCain

Carroll

Medical Center. organizations over his

individuals with cancer.

Volunteers with the Hurlburt Field Thrift Shop donat-

4 COMMANDO May 7, 2004 News

# Gunter renames park for Air Force hero

By Carl Bergquist Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – Retired Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Fisk, who served in the pararescue career field, was honored April 28 when Gunter's Elephant Park was renamed in his honor and a monument highlighting his illustrious Air Force career was officially dedicated.

Adjacent to Enlisted Heritage Hall Museum, Fisk Park is a tribute to the former chief's service to his country.

Mr. Fisk's Air Force career involved pararescue efforts in Vietnam, recovering astronauts for Apollo missions 8, 9 and 10 and the rescue of the crew of the U.S.S. Mayaguez. Chief Master Sgt. Dave Hamel, director of Air Force Enlisted Heritage Research Institute, said the monument stands near a "solid and healthy Virginia Pine Tree," which looms large among the park's many pines.

"Like the tree, Chief Wayne Lewis Fisk stands out within our Air Force," he told the crowd, which included Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray.

"When Chief Hamel and Bill Chivalette called to tell me the news, I was honored, then apprehension began to settle in," Mr. Fisk said. "Since parks are usually named after those who have 'pulled up their chocks,' you know, are dead, I began to wonder if they knew something I didn't."

He said his life was never fuller than when he was wearing the Air Force uniform, and his successes were really the successes of the many people he worked with during his military career.

A highlight of the ceremony was a special flag presentation to Mr. Fisk. In tribute to his pararescue career, an HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter from the 41st Rescue Squadron, Moody Air Force Base, Ga., hovered over the park and lowered two pararescuemen to the ground.

With folded flag in hand, they ran to Mr. Fisk's position and presented him with the flag, which was flown at EHH Plaza on Mr. Fisk's April 6 birthday. (AFSOC NFNS)

# CMSAF: Spread the word about Air Force Aid Society

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. -

The Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force recently sent a note to the Air Force's senior enlisted leadership about the Air Force Aid Society.

CMSAF Gerald R. Murray asked command chiefs, first sergeants and other enlisted leaders to help spread the word about "...the great things the Air Force Aid Society is doing for our Airmen and their families."

"With more and more Airmen looking to the Aid Society for help in their time of need, it's imperative that the support given to the agency also increases; the best way to make that happen is through awareness," the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force said in the note.

"Each family support center has an informative video, narrated by Howie Long, that gives the history of the AFAS and personal testimonies about how it's helped our people. It's a moving and effective video, and I encourage each of you to use it in your classrooms, commanders' calls, Top Three and Airman Councils, and any other forum that will educate our Airmen about how they can support this worthwhile organization. Air Force Aid truly is a way that we as Airmen can 'take care of our own,'" he said.

The video can be viewed from the AFAS Web site, http://www.afas.org. (AFSOC NFNS)

# Look who's talking:

What's something unique you'd like people to know about your culture?



"Our welcoming and friendly hospitality we share with everyone is unique in our Filipino culture."

**1st Lt. Russell Cuenca,** 16th Special Operations Squadron



"The diverse and exciting culture bring us many values such as dedication, industriousness, loyalty and generosity among others."

Helen Cason JC2ISR-JT&E



Airman Sokum Johnson, 16th Services Squadron "That respect is a big part of our culture. Most Cambodian families live in two rooms. When they sleep, they sleep in one bed; parents sleep at the head of the bed and the youngest at the foot."

# Retiree News, MyPay Web site

As more members of the military retiree community become computer oriented, Defense Finance Accounting Service officials are increasing emphasis on it's "MyPay" system.

MyPay allows customers to manage their pay account information easier. A secure Web site and a PIN number make MyPay safe. The system has also been designated to be customer friendly.

Access to MyPay is available online at https://MyPay.dfas.mil. Officials note that retired members and SBP annuitants will find:

- ■MyPay is available 24/7
- ■MyPay delivers retiree account statements

- ■Changes are effective the current pay period
- Account statements can be printed
- ■Tax statements can be print-d
- ■Information such as bank account information and personal information can be updated

The site also allows retirees to change federal tax withholdings and manage allotments and U.S. Savings Bonds.

To use MyPay, retirees and annuitants must have a PIN. DFAS customers without a PIN may obtain one by accessing MyPay and clicking on "New PIN" or by calling 1-877-363-3677.

# News Briefs

AF News
Survey results

The Air Force has released the results of the 2003 AF Climate Survey to unit leaders. The survey included the entire force and asked questions about job characteristics, unit resources, core values, supervision, chain of command, training and development, and job enhancement. The survey found the highest-rated factors were unit per-

formance outcomes, job characteristics and core values. A total of 86 percent say their work groups exercise teamwork and perform essential work above and beyond the call of duty. Another 85 percent say they have the required training to do their jobs and have opportunities for professional growth. Also, 65 percent say unit morale is high, up from 55 percent in 1997. Active-duty respondents rate all factors lower than Guardsmen, Reservists and civilians. Ratings increased in units in which

leaders used the results positively.

# TSP open season

The current Thrift Savings Plan open season continues until June 30.

This is the time service members can start or change their contributions to their TSP account. Service members can contribute up to nine percent of their base pay each month, and up to 100 percent of incentive pay and special pay, including bonus and combat pay. Total contributions from taxable pay may not exceed the

Internal Revenue Service limit of \$13,000 for 2004.

TSP is a tax-deferred savings option and lowers the taxable income for participants. The savings plan is similar to 401K plans offered by many private employers.

TSP enrollment can be done online through the MyPay Web site at https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx or by completing a TSP enrollment form and turning it in at the local pay or personnel office. Enrollment forms are available at www.tsp.gov.

COMMANDO May 7, 2004

# AFSOC hosts Individual Mobilization Augmentees conference

By Major Scott Covode

AFSOC Public Affairs IMA

#### ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.

- Nearly 150 Air Force Special Operations Command veteran and rookie Individual Mobilization Augmentees gathered at the U.S. Special Operations Schoolhouse, here, April 22-24 for a program update and to chart the way ahead.

Reservists from a variety of career fields filled the auditorium to learn more about the command's IMA program.

From a program of only 50 IMAs two years ago, to more than three times that now, the AFSOC program has expanded to support the growing importance and emphasis on the special operations mission.

Maj. Gen. John Dorris, Mobilization Assistant to the AFSOC Commander, explained as the Air Force transforms, AFSOC is changing to meets new demands and new missions.

"Combatant commanders are requesting more special operations and combat search and rescue capabilities, and the reservist plays a critical role in augmenting those missions as well as supporting the mission at home," he said. "We've come to a point that reservists are integral to every core mission of the command."

The mission of the IMA program is to provide a qualified, reserve, augmentation force to the active duty, during wartime, contingencies or other emergency activity. Maj. Gen. Charles Stenner, Director of Plans and Programs at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command, fully recognizes the need and value of the IMAs as a force multiplier.

"IMAs are a huge part of the

future because of their flexibility." General Stenner said. "That is their number one asset. Another bonus is that most come into the program fully qualified and ready to perform the mission."

IMAs, for the most part, are former active-duty Airmen who've completed all of their specialized training and bring a wealth of experience to the table.

As the Air Force continues to transform and provide more capabilities, the reserve program will transform right alongside. Col. Patricia Quisenberry, vice commander, Air Force Reserve Personnel Center, explained that the ARPC is always looking for new ways to improve the management of the IMA program.

"The future will bring decentralized management of the IMA program," she said. "Unit military personnel flights will take over care and

feeding of the IMAs just like their active duty customers. Also, more and more reliance is being placed on technology to manage the program. The AFSOC IMA program is growing rapidly, and AFSOC managers will have the tools they need to take care of the reservist just as they take care of their active duty members."

The highlight of the IMA conference was a dinner, Apr. 23, where General Dorris presented the AFSOC IMA of the Year awards. Capt. Carla Cushenberry, an IMA assigned to the 16th Mission Support Squadron, earned honors in the officer category. Tech. Sgt. Steven Parker, 347th Security Forces Squadron, Moody Air Force Base, Ga., was recognized in the enlisted category.

For information about becoming an IMA or creating IMA positions, call Senior Master Sgt. Dina Moriarty at 884-2820. (AFSOC NFNS)

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May 7, 2004 COMMANDO

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# The Air Force Virtual Education Center expands service

The Air Force's total force Web-based Virtual Education Center recently added new on-line services offered through "My AFVEC" that customers can access from any computer without visiting the education center.

The Air Force Virtual Education Center is the Air Force's premier site for providing information about educational information and benefits.

The site provides students one-stop-shopping for all higher education needs. These services are offered to encourage progress of each educational endeavor the student chooses to participate in; whether it's working toward their Community College of the Air Force degree, applying for commissioning or testing for Professional Military Education completion.

AFVEC provides relevant information directly to the student, based on the interests they personally select when they register for their AFVEC account. This personalized account is called "My AFVEC." When the student reenters My AFVEC after establishing the account, it opens to those items selected by the student as relevant to their educational goals and interests.

Available services include:

CCAF Web progress report: Track and monitor CCAF degree progress through the "Web PR," which enables the student to be more proactive with their degree program. This user-friendly system provides immediate academic feedback to students upon request, versus requesting information through the mail.

On-line transcript request: Order and track transcripts online through AFVEC. These transcripts can be sent as an official transcript to another academic institution or as an unofficial transcript to the students.

Civilian course conversion table: Review information on courses that CCAF has reviewed from civilian colleges, universities and college-level examination sources. The CivCCT identifies more than 380,000 distinct course and catalog combinations reflecting codes used by CCAF to apply credit. This allows students to make an educated choice in course selection when registering for classes or signing up for College Level Examination Program tests or DANTES Standardized Subject Tests.

ĆCAF distance learning options: Pursue a CCAF degree anywhere, anytime. CCAF has partnered with identified institutions to offer distance-learning options to fulfill general education requirements. Visit AFVEC to discover more about this new program.

On-line student education record: Review and update personal education record data including rank, duty phone, fax, date of birth, e-mail address and mailing address. These updates are encouraged to keep education records as current and up-to-date as possible.

On-line enrollment history: Review a complete enrollment history. Use of the enrollment history will allow students to see courses that were taken using tuition assistance.

On-line notifications: Access a listing of missing grades and tuition assistance-related suspenses.

DANTES/CLEP test results: Check on test results without stepping in the education center. Listings of both passing and failing test scores are provided directly through the student record. This listing is refreshed weekly through the DANTES Score Reporting System.

The successful launch of on-line tools within AFVEC has empowered the Air Force member to take control of their education by allowing them to focus on a specific need. AFVEC is constantly growing and updated to keep up with the growing wants and needs of the work force.

In the future, AFVEC will also provide tools to request tuition assistance, schedule appointment and test dates online. For more information about "My AFVEC," visit https://afvec.langley.af.mil.

COMMANDO May 7, 2004

# American Red Cross offers disaster preparedness tips

**Assemble a disaster kit** – Gather enough supplies in the home to meet the family's needs for at least three days. Be sure to have plenty of flashlights for emergency lighting.

Assemble a travel disaster kit – stored in an easy-to-carry container, such as a covered trash container, a large backpack or a duffle bag – in case the family is asked to leave the home. The basics should include: water, food; first aid supplies; a change of clothing and blanket or sleeping bag; emergency tools; flashlights, radio, batteries; and special items for infants, elderly family members or people with disabilities.

Make a plan – Plan where to meet after a disaster. Choose two places outside the home, in case of a sudden emergency, such as a fire and another outside the neighborhood in case family members can't return home or are asked to leave the neighborhood.

After determining meeting places, settle on the best escape routes from the home and out of the community.

Ask an out-of-town friend to become the family contact. After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance over landlines. All family members must know the contact's number, in order to call and tell the contact where they're located.

Get trained in lifesaving skills – Take an American Red Cross course in how to save a life at the local Red Cross center. Lifesaving skills are imperative for parents and children. The American Red Cross of Northwest Florida offers a 90-minute presentation that includes basic instruction in first aid and disaster preparedness.

Sign up to be a volunteer – There are many volunteer opportunities for people of all ages. Disaster action team members offer assistance to the victims of fires and other emergencies; Armed Forces Emergency Services caseworkers help send emergency messages to U.S. troops overseas; and blood services volunteers help register people at Red Cross blood collection sites. Check with the Northwest Florida chapter to learn more about opportunities they offer.

**Give blood** – Every two seconds, someone in America needs blood. Every day, blood is needed in hospitals and emergency treatment facilities for patients with cancer and other diseases, for organ transplant recipients and to save the lives of accident victims. For patients who receive blood transfusions, the donation can make the difference between life and death. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543) to schedule an appointment.

For more information, visit www.redcross.org owww.northwestflorida.redcross.org.

# This week in history

May 6, 1912 – Three Army planes made the first group cross-country flight.

May 2, 1923 – First non-stop transcontinental flight from New York to San Diego began.

May 8, 1945 – Germany surrenders unconditionally.

May 3, 1952 – A ski-and-wheel equipped U.S. Air Force C-47 Skytrain makes the world's first successful North Pole landing.

May 5, 1970 – Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps expands to include women after test programs at Ohio State, Drake, East Carolina and Auburn Universities prove successful.

May 2, 1977 – First Lt. Christine Schott becomes the first woman undergraduate pilot training student to solo in the T-38 Talon.

May 2, 1980 – Second Lt. Mary Wittick is the first woman to enter the Air Force undergraduate helicopter pilot training program in Class 81-05.

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The 16th Special
Operations Wing public
affairs office is always looking for unique or interesting
stories for the Commando
newspaper. If you're a writer
and would like to submit
something to the
Commando, e-mail it to
commando@hurlburt.af.mil.







BUCKLE UP FOR SAFETY

# Ten students awarded academic scholarships

By Vanessa Adame

Public Affairs

The Hurlburt Officer's Spouses Club and First Command Financial Planning awarded 11 academic scholarships to Air Force family members at a luncheon held at The Soundside, April 22.

The recipients are listed as follows:

Andrew Peterson is the recipient of the 2004 First Command Academic Scholarship of \$2,000. He is the son of retired Tech. Sgt. Michael and Janice Peterson, and is ranked in the top three percent of his class at Fort Walton Beach High School. Andrew is president of the Youth in Government team, team captain of Odyssey of the Mind, church mission groupyouth leader, band, tutoring and he's also a member of the National Honor Society. Andrew plans to pursue law and eventually attend Harvard Law School.

**Anne Mahlum** is the recipient of a \$1,500 HOSC Academic Scholarship. She's the daughter of retired Lt. Col. Richard and Hulda Mahlum. Anne attends Fort Walton Beach High School where she is vice president of the Key Service Club and is involved in Future Business Leaders of America, National Honor Society, student council, Beta Club, academic team, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Youth in Government. After earning a degree in business, she'd like to become a chief executive officer of a company or a corporate business lawyer.

Tyler Fleming, son of Senior Master Sgt. Mark and Regina Fleming, was awarded the HOSC Academic Scholarship for \$1,500. He is ranked 15th from a high school class of 419 students at Fort Walton Beach High School. He's a member of the National Honor Society, varsity basketball team, Beta Club and he also volunteers at the Covenant House. Tyler would like to pursue a degree in engineering

after graduation.

Justin Carr, a student at Okaloosa Walton Community College, is the recipient of a \$1,250 HOSC Academic Scholarship. He's the son of Chaplain (Capt.) David and Stephanie Carr. Justin is a member of Who's Who in Junior Colleges, the Northwest Florida Symphony Chorus and guest performer with the Northwest Florida Ballet. Justin has worked as a lifeguard at the base pool for two years and he is worship leader at the base chapel. In the future, Justin would like to become a teacher, lawyer, businessman or Broadway performer.

Jessica Griffin, daughter of Col. "Griff" and Denise Griffin, was awarded a \$1,250 HOSC Academic Scholarship. Jessica is the recipient of Niceville High School's Principal's Eagle Scholar Award for the fourth consecutive year and the President's Education Award for the last three years. Jessica serves as president of the Key Club, president of Students Against Destructive Decisions, and is a member of the National Honor Society among other organizations.

Jessica would like obtain a degree in psychology after graduating high school.

Fort Walton Beach High School student **Travis Huffman** is the recipient of a \$1,250 HOSC Academic scholarship. Travis is the son of retired Senior Master Sgt. Robert and Brenda Huffman. He's been a member of Fort Walton Beach High School's varsity football team and weight lifting team for the last four years. He's also been selected as an Okaloosa County Honor Student for three consecutive years. Travis has served on the executive board of the Hurlburt Field Keystone Club in the past, logging over 160 hours.

**Dustin March** has been awarded a \$1,250 HOSC scholarship. Dustin is the son of retired Master Sgt. James and Phyllis March. Dustin is active in Fort Walton Beach High School's Reserve Officers' Training Corps program as Corps commander, where he's earned numerous awards including Most Outstanding and Distinguished Cadet. Dustin is a member of the National Honor Society, National Beta Club and a member of the Meister Singers. Dustin plans to study engineering in college, and eventually become an Air Force fighter pilot.

Cynthia Brandewie is the recipient of a \$1,000 HOSC Scholarship. Cynthia is the daughter of retired Chief Master Sgt. Bruce and Nancy Brandewie. She's active in Fort Walton Beach High School's Chorus and Band, where she's earned Most Outstanding Female Vocalist in 2001. She also serves as Historian for the National Honor Society and has volunteered approximately 200 hours toward church-related activities. Cynthia's academic goals include earning a doctorate in music education and teaching.

Navarre High School student Rachelle Salomone is the recipient of a \$1,000 HOSC scholarship. Rachelle is the daughter of retired Master Sgt. Robert and Sally Salomone. She's earned awards in both athletics and academics. Rachelle is active in student government, the weightlifting team and has volunteered for church-related activities and the family support center in the past. Rachelle plans to study pharmacy in college.

Niceville High School student Jennifer Patterson is the recipient of the first HOSC Turnaround Scholarship. A school counselor nominated her for the scholarship after she worked through a reading weakness and successfully overcame it earning a 3.6 grade point average. Jennifer plans to attend Florida State University, and pursue medical school. Jennifer is the daughter of Lt. Col Mark and Sharon Patterson.

Julie Ross, wife of Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Ross, is the recipient of the Spouse Academic Scholarship, earning \$500 toward her studies. Mrs. Ross is a student at University of West Florida where she's pursuing nursing. Her future goals include obtaining a degree as a nurse practitioner and working in a military hospital.

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MILITARY MEDIA COMM/ENHANCE WOM 550196 2 X 5.00

# Community

# 16th CPTS closure

The 16th Comptroller Squadron will close today at 1 p.m. for an official function. For emergencies, call 803-3324.

School registration

Registration for the University of Arkansas at Hurlburt Field is going on now through Tuesday. Degree requirements can be completed in one year, University of Arkansas offers a Master of Science degree with a major in Operations Management. For more information call 884-3844 or e-mail uafgrad3@uofa.gccoxmail.com.

## Munch and Mend

Munch and Mend is Monday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the base chapel. The event provides a free dinner to Airmen while having repairs, such as sewing on stripes or patches to one article of clothing. For more information, contact Bill White at 884-7371, or Jimmie Thomas at 881-3344.

loastmasters meeting

Hurlburt Toastmasters meets Wednesdays at noon in the education center, building 90220, classroom J. Toastmasters is designed to help individuals develop and improve their speaking, listening and leadership skills through a positive learning environment. For more information call Marty Mears at 884-9130 or e-mail marty.mears@hurlburt.af.mil. More information is available at www.hurlburt.freetoasthost.org.

## HOSC luncheon

The Hurlburt Officers' Spouses Club May luncheon is planned for Thursday, 10:30 a.m., at The Soundside. The program is party planning demonstrations.

Cost is \$13 for non-members and \$11 for members. Our focus charity is "A Family's Future," formerly Mom's House. Items to bring for donation are baby wipes, hand sanitizer, baby powder, diapers in sizes 3-5, band aids, paper towels, tempera paint, construction paper, markers, laminating sheets, ink cartridges (Xerox 8R7881) and monetary donations for curriculum. Childcare will be available for \$3 per hour per child or \$5 per hour total for two or more children. Reservations for both must be made no later than noon on Monday by calling Jean Keith at 581-3557.

AFSA meeting

The Air Force Sergeant's Association, Chapter 567, will meet May 20, 3 p.m. at J.R. Rockers. For more information, call Master Sgt. Mary Gowin at 884-7821 or Senior Master Sgt. William Ogden at 884-4388.

ERAU Summer registration

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Summer registration will be held Monday through May 21 in Bldg. 90220, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The class runs May 24 through July 24. ERAU offers degrees in Professional Aeronautics, Technical Management, Aeronautical Science, and many certificate programs. For more information, call 581-2106 or visit www.erau.edu/fortwaltonbeach.

## Food Drive

The Letter Carriers' Food Drive is scheduled for Saturday. Please leave food donations such as soups and other canned goods by your mailbox. Your letter carrier will pick up all donated items. The items will help stock many of our local area pantries throughout the summer.

Hurlburt Happenings

Massage therapy job

The Commando Fitness Center has one full-time contract position available as a massage therapy contract manager. Qualification information for this position and bid package are available through June 11 at the 16th Contracting Squadron, located at 350 Tully Street, building 90339. For more information, call Alan Adrian at 884-3261.

## Summer camp

Liza Jackson Preparatory School will host Camp Invention, a national summer day camp that encourages children to develop creative abilities. The camp is set for June 21-25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for children entering second through sixth grade in the 2004-2005 school year. For more information, call (800) 968-4332.

Motorcycle training

All Hurlburt Field motorcycle riders must attend the Motorcycle Safety Foundation course at the Permanent Exercise Facility on the indicated dates below. People can sign-up for training through the 16th Special Operations Wing Safety office by calling 884-2614. Students will be given a list of personal protective equipment and a map to the training pad in the PEF. Riders will be required to have a motorcycle license or learners permit, vehicle registration and insurance paperwork to get bikes on

Hurlburt Field currently offers the Experienced Riders course, which requires at least three months riding experience, but the Beginner Riders course will be offered soon. Dates for the training are as follows: Saturday, May 18; June 1, 15; July 2, 6; Aug. 3, 17; Sept. 7, 21.

# AFSOC Art and Poetry contest

Air Force Special Operations Command is hosting its first Art and Poetry contest. All school-aged family members of AFSOC military and civilian members are eligible. The contest theme is "Celebrating Memorial Day." Contestants can submit art and poetry entries on any topic or subject related to the celebration of this day. The winning artwork and poetry will be displayed in the mezzanine of the Headquarters AFSOC building.

All poems must be 20 lines or less. All artwork must be 8 ½ by 11 inches portrait or landscape. Deadline for entry is May 20.

Send entries to AFSOC.CSSFA@hurlburt.af.mil. Complete rules and entry forms can be obtained at: https://www.afsoc.af.mil/milonly/ArtPoetryContest. Forms are also available at the base library, child development center, family support and youth center. School photos of the contestants can be included, but aren't required.

# Foster Care Session

A free foster care orientation session will be held May 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center at Okaloosa/Walton Community College. For more imformation or to register contact Lucie Wade at (850) 595-8222 Ext 108.

#### Air Force TV and Radio News



To check out. Air Force TV or Radio News visit: http://af.feedroom.com or www.af.mil/news and click on TV or radio to find out what s happening around

# **Hurlburt Field Chapel**



**Protestant Services** 

Catholic Mass Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:15 and 10 a.m. Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request. Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday Religious Education: September- May

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (praise & worship) 11:30 a.m. (traditional) 12:45 p.m. (Gospel) Religious Education: August - May Youth and Singles groups available Jewish Services (882-2111) Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel Center Havdallah services: next-to-the-last Saturday of each month, 7 p.m., chapel annex

Muslim Services (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center Jumuah: Friday, 12:45 p.m. Qur'an: Saturday, 6 p.m.

For more information, call 884-7795

# At the movies



Prices are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

#### Hurlburt Field 884-7648

**Friday** – (R) *Dawn of the Dead*, starring Sarah Polley and Ving Rhames - A mysterious plague causes the dead to rise from their graves and desperate survivors seek refuge in a mall from an ever-increasing zombie horde and must learn to co-exist with each other.

Saturday - (R) Taking Lives, starring Angelina Jolie and Ethan Hawke - FBI Agent Scott doesn't rely on traditional crime-solving to unravel mysteries of a murderous mind. When detectives ask for help to get inside the head of a serial killer, she joins the case and finds herself on a terrifying journey, surrounded by suspects in a case that's become chillingly personal.

Saturday - (R) Never Die Alone, starring DMX and David Arquette - Half preacher, half Satan, and all street smarts, King David records the story of his exploits. The tapes reveal violence and retribution, that his actions have spawned, has come back full circle.

Eglin 882-1066

Friday - (R) The Passion of the Christ, starring Jim Caviezel and Maia Morgenstern - Over the last 12 hours of Christ's life, he's betrayed by Judas Iscariot and condemned to death for blasphemy. Jesus is severely beaten and made to carry his cross up to Golgotha, the hill outside Jerusalem, where he's nailed to the cross.

(PG-13) Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed, starring Sarah Michelle Gellar and Freddie Prinze Jr. - An anonymous villain wreaks mayhem on the city of Coolsville with a monster machine that re-creates classic Mystery Inc. foes. Under pressure from citizens, the gang launches an investigation into the mysterious monster outbreak that leaves Shaggy and Scooby questioning their roles in Mystery Inc.

Sunday – (R) Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, starring Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet - Joel discovers that his girlfriend has had her memories of their tumultuous relationship erased. Joel attempts the same procedure, but as he recalls the good times they had, he tries to mentally overcome the procedure while he sleeps.

Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm scheduled dates.)

## Clinic Closure

The 16th Medical Group will close at 11 a.m. May 14 for wing training. However, normal clinic operations will be in effect until 11 a.m. For any emergency needs, the Eglin Air Force Base emergency room will be open. Normal clinic operations will resume May 17 at 7 a.m.

### Unification Conference

The Hurlburt Field community is invited to attend a Unification Conference at the Emerald Coast Conference Center May14 from 7 to 10 p.m. and May 15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Guest speaker is Yvonne Jones. Cost is \$20. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Tech. Sgt. Beverly Butler at 314-9858, Tech. Sgt. Juanita Gilchrist at 884-1175 or Jerrilyn Christopher at 939-3781.

#### New hours

Pass and registration customer service has new hours. They are listed as follows: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Line badges won't be issued after 4:15 p.m. For more information, call 884-5125.

### Vendors needed

Vendors are needed for Hurlburt Field's third annual Bridal Expo, June 6. The event will be held at the Soundside from 2 to 5 p.m. For more information, call Phyllis Pettigrew at 581-3110.

Helping hands

Ameriphil Helping Hands, a non-profit organization that helps local charitable groups invites the Hurlburt Field community to attend their induction of officers at the Emerald Coast Conference Center May 29 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 936-4507.

# AFSOC picnic

The Air Force Special Operations Command will host its annual picnic May 21 from 11:30 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m. at the community park. The community park parking lot and entrance to the child development center will be blocked for the function. Event goers are encouraged to park at the base chapel, the base tax center, the pool or J.R. Rockers. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Jennifer Snow at 884-8756 or 1st Lt. Amber Bianchini at 884-8752.

Free resort stay

Vail Resorts is offering 1,000 complimentary room nights at Breckenridge and Keystone Resorts in Colorado for service members who've served in Iraq and Afghanistan in the last few months. Operation Freedom Lodging is going on now through December 16. For more information, call (800) 832-3694 for Breckenridge and (800) 270-4690 for Keystone.

#### Pet week

The Eglin Air Force Base Veterinary Clinic will be hosting National Pet Week through Sunday. Clifford the Dog will be available for photos at the Hurlburt Field Main Exchange May 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be prizes and fun for the family. For more information, call 882-4333.

# LRS changes

The 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron is undergoing organizational changes in accordance with U.S. Air Force directives. The current distribution flight is now designated the material management flight. Also, the cargo inbound and outbound functions, which currently reside within the distribution flight, will be administratively moved to the traffic management flight. All current function office locations and contact numbers will remain the same. The change is an attempt to streamline LRS's processes and to better serve cus-

For more information or questions, call 1st Lt. Anthony Parkinson at 884-1494 or e-mail anthony.parkinson@hurlburt.af.mil.

AFCOMAP Meeting
The Emerald coast Air Force Cadet Officer Mentor Action Program will meet Thursday at 11:00 a.m. at the Eglin Officer's Club. The meeting will focus on leadership experiences while deployed. All enlisted personnel, civilians and officers are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Lt. Col. Thomas Mitchell at 882-

# Classes

## **HAWC** classes

To reserve a seat in the following health and wellness classes, call 884-4292. All classes are free of charge and held in building 90232.

**Healthy Living Workshop** – Tuesday, and Thursday; 8:30 a.m.

Diabetic Nutrition – Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.

Body Composition Improvement Program -Tuesday, 1 p.m.

**Body Composition Improvement Program Follow-up** – Wednesday, 1 p.m.

Total Fitness Enhancement – Wednesday, 8:30

**Eating Heart Healthy** – Wednesday, 10:30 p.m. **Lean on Me Weight Loss Group** – Wednesday, 3:30 p.m.

Lean & Healthy Eating – Thursday, 3:30 p.m.

### FSC classes

For more information on the following family support center classes, call 884-5441.

**Employment Orientation** – Monday, 10 a.m.

**Sponsorship Training** – Monday, 1 p.m.

**Resume Workshop** – Monday, 1 p.m. Moms, Pops and Tots - Tuesday, Wednesday;

10 a.m.

**Bundles for Babies** – Wednesday, 9 a.m. Federal Employment – Friday, 9 a.m.

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# Hurlburt Hawks aim for Hard Targets in championship

By Airman Dickens

Public Affairs

After fighting through a season of adversity, the Hurlburt Hawks, base roller hockey team, lost 6-2 Wednesday against the Hard Targets of Gulf Breeze at the Gulf Breeze Skate and Fun Center in the championship

The regular season didn't go as well as the Hawks had wished, due to the lack of a stable roster. But, when have service members

the same line up due to deployments and other issues," said Jason Davis, 16th Maintenance Operation Squadron. "In the last few games of the season we actually had the same lineup, which helped a lot when it came to how well we played together."

"Near the end of the season when it really counted our heart and passion for the game increased and propelled us into the championship game," Davis said, "Which is farther

After beating some good teams to get themselves into the championship, the Hurlburt Hawks found themselves only one win away from a dream, the "Stanley Can".

let adversity get them down? "Throughout the season we seldom had

than we would have ever imagined."

Destiny seemed to be in the Hawks favor at the start of the game with them appearing

**Hurlburt Hawks** goalie, Jay Santos, 16th Aircraft Maintainence Squadron, streches to deflect a shot from a Targets player. Santos played well toward the end of the year, which helped the Hawks catapult into the championship game against the Hard Targets of Gulf Breeze.

to dominate, but with only six minutes left in the first period the Targets struck first.

Jonathan Polowski, a Hard Target player, scored the first goal off an assist from teammate Gavin Carpenter.

The goal took the Targets into the second period with a one-point lead over the

The Targets kept their momentum going once they got started by slipping three more goals past the Hawks defenses.

Despite the Targets quick 4-0 lead the Hawks refused to roll over, instead they struck back with two quick goals.

Matt O'Leary, 6th Special Operations Squadron, and Dave Halvorson, 16th Helicopter Maintenance Squadron, both zipped goals past Jason Thomas, Targets goalie, off of assists from teammates Nick Burgwardt, 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and Davis, which brought the score to 4-2.

The Targets snagged two more goals in the third period, which brought the game to an end at 6-2.

Although the game was over and the "Can" gone for one more year, the Hawks refused to hang their heads or pout, but instead Davis said, "In the future we plan on sticking to our guns and coming home with the Stanley Can.'



Photo by Airman Ali Flisek



Hurlburt Hawks and Hard Targets face off during the championship game.

# Intramural Softball Standings

<u>Team</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>	Win Pct
SFS	6	0	1.000
AMXS 2	5	0	1.000
RHS	6	1	.857
AMXS 1	5	1	.833
LRS	5	1	.833
CES 1	4	1	.800
EMS AGE	4	2	.667
505th CCW	4	2	.667
COMM 1	4	2	.667
CPTS	3	2	.600
DET 1	1	1	.500
CMS	3	4	.429
AMMO	2	4	.333
MOS	1	3	.250
SVS	1	3	.250
CES 2	1	3	.250
USCG	1	4	.200
MDG	1	4	.200
MSS	1	5	.167
25th IOS	1	5	.167
OSS	1	7	.125
COMM2	0	5	.000

# Sports shorts

# Steam room renovation

The men's steam room at the Aderholt Fitness Center opens May 30.

Super Day 2004

Super Day 2004 is scheduled for May 27. The day-long event matches up different units on base in friendly competition. For more information, call the Aderholt Fitness Center at 884-6949

Sailing classes

Outdoor recreation is offering sailing classes Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Classes will be held at outdoor recreation, Building 92473 and the cost is \$36 per person. Pre-registration is required by phone or in person. For more information call 884-6939.

# Hockey tryouts

The base varsity roller hockey team will be holding try-outs 5 p.m. Saturday at the new Hurlburt Field roller hockey rink located by the tennis courts. For more information, call Capt. Matt O'Leary at 884-5465.

# 16th Mission Support Group One Team, One Fight...For the Commandos - Hooah!

Sidney Brown

The 16th Mission Support Group consists of an eight member staff, whose mission is to provide garrison and deployed support for Air Force Special Operations Command, 16th Special Operations Wing and 35 tenant units with more than 8,226 military and civilian members. The group deploys manpower, equipment and supplies to support training, exercises and contingency operations.

Master Sqt.

Carlos Rivera

The mission support group is extremely proud of their mission because nothing takes place on Hurlburt Field without cutting across the group in some form. Their mission is so diverse and they're able to help the warfighter and the Special Operations Forces mission move forward every single day.

Although the majority of their customers are active duty, the 16th MSG supports Reserve, Guard, retired and civilian members and pride themselves on treating each one as the most important customer.

In a time when the Air Force is being forced to do more with less, the group strives to find more efficient ways of accom-

plishing their mission and continuing to be successful at it. The group believes, the better trained and equipped people are, the better they can accomplish the mission. Quality people, operational

Patty Whiting

performance and modernization are the key. Three unique things about the 16th MSG:

- ■They take care of support requirements; civil engineering, security forces, communications, personnel, education, family support, services, recreation, dining, fitness, supply, transportation and contracting.
- ■In a moments notice, they can be doing the same in a combat environment
- ■No matter how many of their people are deployed, the 16th Mission Support Group continues to successfully take care of all service members and families still here at home station.



Staff Sgt.

Katisha Clark